

January 3, 1940

Dearest Mother + All

Well here I am trying to write again. It may interest you to know that I will be in San Francisco when you receive this letter. We land to-morrow at 2 P.M. I won't say either. We will have traveled 4850 miles on water. That's just too much at one time.

The trip through Panama was fine. We docked on the Atlantic side at a place named Colon. The place was pretty but I didn't like it. Mostly negros. People wearing white suits. Some were in swimming. It took us 8 hrs to go through the Canal. The place is just beautiful. Everything pretty and green. Mountains most all the way. We spent the night in Balboa harbor and pulled out the next morning.

We have been feeling sick for past few days. The sea men feel & green. I have eaten so much ice cream that I don't care for any more. We have it every day & at dinner we had more turkey for New Years. We have fruit for breakfast & supper.

We enjoy playing cards. We also enjoy the shore and daily paper. The paper is made up of news that came over Radio etc.

The boat is doing some kind of rocking. I doubt if I can walk a straight line. I stay sleepy all the time. I can't get



enough sleep. I hope to catch up some day.  
I also hope to get enough boat riding.

I am going to have to make this short for I do  
good to hold my head up. I have got to write  
Ava + Grace anyway. Did you get the  
letter alright? I put stamps on it. I want seal  
this maybe Bob will add a few words.

Did the car get done okay? Did you get  
to keep it? Let us know right away. Have  
my clothes cleaned and put away. Daddy can  
have the packy pants & Wool shirt, I will  
keep the rest when I return.

I will close and mail this now. we put  
it in mail box as it is mailed as soon as we  
dock. We will ~~write~~ write again soon. Until  
then good bye and good luck. Remember I love  
you lots.

Your  
Believing  
Brook



January 3, 1940

Dearest Mother and all,

Well here I am trying to write again. It may interest you to know that I will be in San Francisco when you receive this letter. We land tomorrow at 2PM. I won't cry either. We will have traveled 4850 miles on water. That's just too much at one time.

The trip through Panama was fine. We docked on the Atlantic side at a place called Colon. The place was pretty but I didn't like it. Mostly Negros. People wearing white suits. Some were in swimming. It took us 8 hours to go through the canal. The place is just beautiful. Everything pretty and green. Mountains most of the way. We spent the night in Balboa harbor. We have been feeling punk for the past few days. The was sea men teal I guess. I have eaten so much ice cream that I don't care for any more. We have it every day for dinner. We had more turkey for New Years. We have fruit for breakfast and supper.

We enjoy playing cards. We also enjoy the show and daily paper. The paper is made up of news that came over the radio ect.

The boat is doing some kind of rocking. I doubt if I can walk a straight line. I stay sleepy all the time. I can't get enough sleep. I hope to catch up some day. I also hope to get enough boat riding.

I am going to have to make this short for I do good to hold my head up. I have got to write Ava and Grace anyway. Did you get the letter alright? I put stamps on it. I won't seal this maybe Bob will add a few words.

Did the car get home okay? Did you get to keep it? Let us know right away. Have my clothes cleaned and put away. Daddy can have the khaki pants and wool shirt, I will need the rest when I return.

I will close and mil this now. We put it in mail box at is mailed as soon as we dock. We will write again soon. Until then goodbye and good luck. Remember I love you lots.

Love Always,

Brock

*Air mail*



VIA AIR MAIL

*Mrs. J. R. Thomhill  
Tylertown,  
Mississippi*





our address  
Mr James R. Thornhill  
Fort Mc Powell  
Angle Island, Calif.  
most of the boys are happy  
but we still have \$7.00 to the  
food and have \$12.00 still coming  
from last month's pay, not bad  
we are going to leave  
each day before long

Fort Mc Powell  
San Francisco  
Calif.

well how is every body to day I hope  
you all feel as good as I do. we got to the  
harbor yesterday and got on a rather good boat and  
went to Angle Island where we will stay  
about 10 or 15 days. It is a pretty place and  
they feed good too, we hadn't had much to eat  
on boat. The trip was wonderful, it was  
like a dream, but I still intend to see more  
before we get to Hawaii, and on the way  
back we will come through state from S.F.  
want that be fine. you know I said I would  
some rough water to see how I would feel  
sea sick. well we got the rough water but I  
didn't get sick but I came so near to it I changed  
my mind, I don't want to get sea sick. A.C. got  
sick and like to have lost his stomach it was  
was him watching them hang over the rails.  
we have been close to coast line for a long ways  
and see nothing but ~~the~~ mountains, and



~~with~~  
they sure are pretty. we went through  
the golden gate San Francisco bay yesterday.  
San Francisco is nothing but a mountain it all  
but it is pretty. we are going to get a pass and look  
over every thing before we leave.

well did the car get home alright. I hope so. I  
dreamed the ~~the~~ other night that he hadn't gotten  
there yet, and again it was torn up. I hope we  
get a letter to Jay and I will feel better. I wish  
we could have gotten the car home now but  
couldn't make it. I hope you all had a big time which  
I am sure you did. How is our baby coming &  
how she is getting pretty every day. Don't  
forget to tell her about herUncle. How is  
Betty Jean and Jaddy coming. I am still looking  
for a letter from them, tell Betty Jean to be  
careful about her supeeing.

we have decided for you to put our clothes in  
and take good care of them for we will need them  
when we get back, because we are going to see some  
of the state before we get back and will come home  
happy. we will sail for Hawaii between the  
20 and 30 of this. write us a long letter will?  
remember I love you all Bob



Fort McDowell  
Angel Island, California  
Jan 6, 1940

We got our laundry ready to send off this morning and it came to \$6.00 so we are going to have work day before long. Most of the boys are broke but we still have \$17.00 to the good and have \$12.00 still coming from last months pay not [unreadable]

Well how is everybody today. I hope you all feel as good as I do. We got to the harbor yesterday and got on another boat and went to Angel Island where we will stay about 10 or 15 days. It is a pretty place and they feed good too. We hadn't had much to eat on boat. The trip was wonderful, it was like a dream, but I still intend to see more before we get to Hawaii, and on the way back we will come through states from S.F. Won't that be fine. You know I said I wanted some rough water to see how I would feel sea sick. Well we got the rough water but I didn't get sick but I came as near to it I changed my mind. I don't want to get sea sick. A.C got sick and like to have lost his stomach it was fun watching them hang over the rails. We have been close to coast for a large ways and see nothing but mountains and they sure are pretty. We went through the Golden Gate at San Francisco bay yesterday. San Francisco is nothing but a mountain itself but it is pretty. We are going to get a pass and look over everything before we leave.

Well did the car get home alright. I hope so. I dreamed the other night that he hadn't gotten there yet and again it was torn up. I hope we get a letter today and I will feel better. I wish we could have gotten the car home Xmas but couldn't make it. I hope you all had a big time which I am sure you did. How is Ava's baby coming. I know she is getting prettier every day. Don't forget to tell her about her uncles. How is Betty Jean and daddy coming. I am still looking for a letter from them. Tell Betty Jean to be careful about her [unreadable].

We have decided for you to put our clothes away and take good care of them for we will need them when we get back, because we are going to see some of the states before we get back and will come home broke. We will sail for Hawaii between the 20<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> I think. Write us a long letter.

Remember I love you all, Bob



Fort M<sup>t</sup> Do  
Angel Island,  
Jan. 8, 1940

Dear Mother & All,

I have been expecting a letter from home, but haven't  
one yet. I got one from Grace the day I got here. Ray received  
Did you send to wrong address. Aunt Mabel wrote Ray  
you carrying his clothes home. That relieved us of a  
have been wondering whether the car got there or not.  
you made it all right with the Company? I would like to  
how everything is. I've heard several times that it's against  
the law to do such. Here is hoping that you can keep the  
We will be here until the 20th so let us know what to  
We feel much better now that we are on land again.

We are located in a good place. San Francisco Bay on one side  
Angel Mountain on the other. You can see over from  
from the mountain. "The Golden Gate", "Alcatraz", "Wo  
Island" and other places of interest.

We were going up on the mountain to-day, but it  
been raining all day. We will go up next week  
it will be lots of fun <sup>and</sup> furniture. We went part of the way yesterday  
we got what we needed plenty of fresh air and exercise.

I made out a laundry ship yesterday. It came to six dollars  
We decided to wash them ourselves. We left them on the  
last night. When out this morning to find them scattered all  
the Post. Bob & Ray are reaching them out now. If the  
bugs up there is no telling when they will get dry. Sun shining  
rain. You can't tell which one comes next. I expect this  
be our last time to put out a washing as large as this.

I expect a letter before you get this one so want  
any more about it. Do write us if you haven't.



I think we will go Wednesday. I hope  
see the place before we leave for Hawaii. I  
done a thing since we left the boat. I didn't  
in but 48 hrs. on the boat. Therefore I've  
Nothing since I left home a month ago.  
expect we will catch some kind of duty  
week. More than likely we will work in  
Fort Mc Dowell in a discharge and I'll come

They stay here waiting for a boat. They come  
every day and leave every day.

Now is everything in Lyttelton? Do you need  
a rain coat or an overcoat? It's not cold here but  
Unsettled, Rain, Sun shining and wind.

~~It's~~ every one how are you all today. I  
all just fine. we just brought my clothes  
in the house so they would dry, we  
had a drought here with our clothes  
think we will make it.

I weighed out and I put you can't give  
how much I weighed. It was 192 lb. we  
weighed Brock weighed 170 Nov 180.  
~~Close~~ close. I am expecting a letter  
from farmer R. H. H. H.  
Fort Mc Dowell



Fort McDowell  
Angel Island, California  
Jan. 8, 1940

Dear Mother and all,

I have been expecting a letter from home, but haven't received one yet. I got one from Grace the day I got here. Ray received three. Did you send to wrong address. Aunt Mabel wrote Ray about you carrying his clothes home. That relieved us a lot. Have you made it all right with the company? I would like to know how everything is. I've heard several times that it is against the law to do such. Here is hoping that you can keep the car. We will be here until the 20<sup>th</sup> so let us know what to expect.

We feel much better now that we are on land again. We are located in a good place. San Francisco Bay on one side and Angel Mountain on the other. You can see over Francisco from the mountain "The Golden Gate", "Alcatraz", "World's Fair Ground" and other places of interest.

We were going up on the mountain today, but it has been raining all day. We will go up next week maybe it will be lots of fun I'm sure. We went part of the way yesterday. We got what we needed plenty of fresh air and exercise.

I made out a laundry slip yesterday. It came to six dollars (\$6). We've decided to wash them ourselves. We left them on the line last night. Went out this morning to find them scattered all over the post. Bob and Ray are washing them out now. If the weather keeps up there is no telling when they will get dry. "Sun Shine and rain. You can't tell which one comes next. I expect this will be our last time to put out a washing as large as this one.

I expect a letter before you get this one so won't say any more about it. Do write us if you haven't.

We are on Angel Island just across the bay. We can get passes on Wednesdays and Saturdays to go to San Francisco. We didn't go over yesterday. I think we will go Wednesday. I hope to see the place before we leave for Hawaii. We haven't done a thing since we left the boat. I didn't put in but 48 hours on the boat. Therefore I've done nothing since I left home a month ago. I expect we will catch some kind of duty next week. More than likely we will work in kitchen.

Fort McDowell is a discharge and placement depot. They stay here waiting for a boat. They come in every day and leave every day.

The next part of the letter is written by Bob

Hello everyone how are you all today. We are all just fine. We just brought my clothes in the house so they would dry. We sure had a [damage] time with our clothes but I think we will make it.



I weighed Sat and I bet you can't guess how much I weighed 170 Ray 180.  
Well Brock has told you all the news so will close. I am expecting a letter.

Mr James R Thornhill

Fort McDowell

Angel Island

Love Brock and Bob

San Francisco, Calif





Mrs J R Thontill  
Tylertown  
Mississippi  
U S A.



Monday Night

Dearest Mother,

Nothing wrong thing in Mississippi?  
Hawaii is in the best of health. Sun shine  
just as hot as can be. Its mighty easy to  
holster. Hawaii is born a the land of rainbows. I  
see them everyday although it doesn't rain.

Your sons are making news. you are to  
have our picture taken to record I don't know  
exactly what they are going to do with them.  
I heard they are going to be put in our Home  
Papers and "The Army and Navy Review". You  
will ask a lot of questions last week. Sports  
man, when a ticket, when arrived here, Athletics,  
and education where & how much. I will give  
details later.

Do you still plan to send us the "Lighthouse"  
book. It will be great help to us. We take  
the "Mountains, Rivers & Lakes" I like it too.

I will have letter from you before you  
receive this. I know it will contain all  
news so I want ask you for it. I do  
wonder how things are around the old hill.  
The boat leaves with mail Friday. I don't know  
if there is one leaving before then or not. I will  
take from two to three weeks for this to arrive.  
I will let Bob finish this. Good Bye & God bless  
He is gone to all friends.



Koroloh/Kauai

Hello Every one.

Seems that Brock gets the same letter  
I start writing every time, but I haven't  
something.

We started drilling this morning. It's not  
going to be bad, I kinda like it. We have a good  
sargent to drill under. We take us some good  
news this morning, it really made me feel  
better. He said that if we were good sailors  
in the recruit camp and didn't mess up  
that we would get a chance at going to school  
all over us, and if that's so which I am sure  
it is I'll be in school for 4 or 5 really working  
for it. I was afraid it would be like it was at  
Marine Field they put you where they want  
you. Like K.P.M.N. and there's kind of things  
don't mean anything. They don't have any school  
there and here they have all kinds of schools.  
The sargent also said that if we want to  
be a cadet to be the Officer when we finish  
the recruit drill and we would have a chance  
at that Brock said he was going to try  
it if things I am going to try air mechanics  
first if I make it. I am going to have to  
fly later on more mechanics on the plane.



anyway I am afraid I can't pass the exam  
and might miss the exam. I am going to  
hope it easy and I might charge very well  
I am going to look into it first though  
There were two mechanics riding round from  
morning and evening. They were both from  
this field, and but pretty bad both in English  
but I found out what caused it but  
not at all that I am going to say it I could be a great  
I would be satisfied. I really would like it.

All be glad when we get a letter, it seems like  
months since we got one. I hope it will be  
long and many. I have been writing plenty  
in last week. Good mother, Bob and Pearl and  
Bob, and was, and, but, and you. I  
think I am getting better. Love about it.  
Have you got the pictures yet. I hope they are  
good. I C. had some pictures and heard they  
were good. I had a lot of parawa coral.

Will have a baby coming fall but she  
as late as a big day in the 1st of it. I am expecting  
it. Has she been sick yet, from all accounts she is  
feeling good. Can't be, better nurse than I expect.  
Have in much to have baby. It is gaining much.  
I wonder how well Bud can do in his  
election. I hope he will.

We have a radio in our room and we get some  
real pretty music. Some of the music.



well Daddy and Betty than how are you all  
fairing these days. has it warmed up much yet  
we have good old winter weather. It got colder but  
about 12 o'clock but sunny evening and snowing  
right it is fine, lay around in the tub and sleep  
under a sheet. This time

lay out in shirts and trousers. You were  
so poor about clothes they have some real  
pretty ones here, but have to send you a suit  
and Daddy I don't know what I would send you  
and have some land shirts but I don't know  
whether you would like them or not I think  
I'll send you one with a collar with  
grass roots all over them, but you would  
hate them.

well that about all for today. I will  
probably stop now with it. I wish I  
could bring them right away that was mailed  
Dec 27th. I hope it won't take them all that  
long, but it had been almost everywhere.

will be looking forward to this from you two  
a personal letter you know one like I had  
to write you all

Very much  
Remember I Love you all  
Bob



2-6-1940

Dearest Mother

Now is everything in Mississippi? Hawaii is in the best of health. Sunshine just as hot as can be. It's mighty easy to blister. Hawaii is known as the land of rainbows. I see them every day although it doesn't rain.

Your sons are making news. We are to have our pictures taken tomorrow. I don't know exactly what they are going to do with them. I heard they are going to be put in our home paper and "The Army and Navy Review". We were asked a lot of questions last week. Parents names, when enlisted, when arrived here, athletics, and education, where and how much. I will give you details later.

Do you still plan to send us the Tylertown Times? It well be great help to us. We take the Honolulu Advertiser". I like it lots.

I will have letter from you before you receive this. I know it well contain all news so I won't ask you for it. I do wonder how things are around the old hill. The boast leaves with mail Friday. I don't know if there is one leaving before then or not. It will take from two to three weeks for this to arrive. I will let Bob finish this. Good bye and good luck. Lots of love to all, Brock.

Hello everyone

Seems that Brock gets the news before I start writing every time, but I'll write something.

We started drilling this morning. It's not going to be bad, I kinda like it. We have a good Sargent to drill under. He told us some good news this morning, it really made me feel better. H said that if we were good soldiers in the recruit camp and didn't mess up that we would get a chance at going to school all of us, and if that's so which I am sure it is I'll be in school or I am really working for it. I was afraid it would be like it was at Maxwell Field. The put you where they wanted you. Like K.P., MR, and those kind of things don't mean anything. They didn't have any schools there and here they have all kink of schools. The sergeant also said that if we wanted to be a cadet to the officers when we finished the recruit drill and we could have a chance at that. Brock said he was going to try it. I think I am going to try air mechanic first if I make it. I am going to learn to fly later, most mechanics can fly a plane.

Anyway, I am afraid I can't pass the exams and might miss this AM for I am going to take it easy and I might change my mind. I am going to look into it first though. There were two mechanics riding around Sun. morning and crashed. They were both from this field and hurt pretty bad, both in hospital. [unreadable] found out what caused it yet. But don't let that alarm you. Boy if I could be a pilot I would be satisfied. I really would like it.



I'll be glad when we get a letter, it seems like months since we got one. I know it well be long and newsy. I have been writing plenty in last week. Grandmothers, Boyd Thornhill, Aunt Babe, and Mae, Ava, Herbert, Fred and you. I think I am getting better. How about it.

Have you got the pictures yet. I hope they are good. J.C. had some developed over here and they were good. I had a lot of Panama Canal.

Well how is our baby coming. I'll bet she's as fat as a pig. Say, is she spoiled yet. I am expecting it. Has she been sick yet. From all accounts Ava is taking good care of her. Betty nurse than I expected. How is Uncle Hobson's baby. It is gaining much.

I wonder how Uncle Bud come out in his election. I hope he won.

We have a radio in our room and we get some real pretty music, Hawaiian native.

Will daddy and Betty Jean know you are farming these days. Has it warmed up much yet. We have good old warm sunshine. It gets kinda hot about 12 o'clock but every evening and morning, night it is fine. Lay around in shorts and sleep under a sheet. It is fine.

Say what size shorts and blouse do you wear and daddy. I don't know what I would send you. We have some loud shirts but I don't know whether you would like them or not. I think I'll send you one with hula gals with grass skirts all over them. I bet you would shine.

Well that's about all for today. It will probably take us a month to get it. Brock got a from Lroc yesterday that was mailed Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. I hope it won't take them all that long but it had been almost everywhere.

Will be looking for a letter from you two a personal letter. You know one like I had to write you all.

Tell [unreadable] hello. Remember I love you all,

Bob



R. Shankill  
17th Air Base  
Hickam - 7.  
Honolulu, T. H.



BUY U. S. S.  
BONDS  
ASK YOUR POSTMASTER



Miss Betty Jean Shankill  
c/o J. R. Shankill  
Tylabron, Mississippi  
U. S. A.



Honolulu Hawaii  
March 7, 1945

Hello Sir,

I got your letter this morning  
and was so interested in it especially  
the 5. of Jan. you remember that week  
you made about the hard rain was  
I was afraid you would mistake  
were you thinking of your boy friend  
you know you said Mr. McNaughton  
to the store after every class that  
first life him. We came back back  
and found two boys playing and  
they got something they were  
looking for something. Brock can  
tell you something about that  
for he got my him several times  
you might have not heard about  
it though.

So Santa Claus was good to you  
as well I am glad for he didn't come



out over the ocean. I never will  
forget that time we were betwixt  
prow and sun. I never see that  
some night people to pay you  
again for me.

That dinner table sounds good. That  
17th day of April next with  
all that company I never see sleep  
it.

Can you please to mother that  
you can write a letter <sup>letter</sup> if you long  
I want you to pass it to me. I don't  
know you can.

You must have written knowing the  
story of the wrong, for he got  
all the eyes fixed on it. I don't know  
you saying. Do mother write it much.  
You must have played with  
the children at school, but I don't say  
who ever has seen figure that out.  
Will be good double ugly for Bob.



Thursday evening

Hello Dad.

So mother and Betty plan to go the same way Brock goes. They write and leave me nothing, but glad to hear from you even though it is pretty late. <sup>myself</sup>

I hope like you ~~to~~ <sup>myself</sup> down the car too soon, said you got to and believed it would work good then everything had to go wrong with it, but mother says it is about ready to go again. I hope so anyway, but time you get her in it, show her just how fast it will go.

You said you all started clearing the swamp, it is hard to believe but after all that snow clearing now. You got much done. It sound like you all are plowing on a big crop this year. I want you to see that it is something



nothing in the way

Yes but you have been so busy

and I think you are trying to make

yourself

Bob told me something while I was  
playing basket ball. I want to say he  
said he was. He tried to rewrite it.  
Can't read his own.

We are still having fun. We got  
16 letters this week. So today is only Thursday,  
we may get more. I have a real nice  
about writing. I got 3 letters from her.

No news so will close

Love  
Brook.



Honolulu, Hawaii  
March 7, 1940

Hello Sis

Hey I got your letter this morning and was it interesting. It was mailed the 5<sup>th</sup> of Jan. You remember that crack you make about those handsome men. I am afraid you made a mistake or were you thinking of your boyfriend.

You know you said Mr. McNair went to the store after every class. That's just like him. He came back and found two boys playing and they got something they weren't looking for. I imagine Brock can tell you something about that for he got on him several times. You might have not heard about it though.

So Santa Clause was good to you eh. Well I am glad for he didn't come out over the ocean. I never will forget that Xmas we were between Panama and San Francisco. You should have enough puzzles to keep you going for a while.

That dinner still sounds good. That 12lb turkey and fresh meat with all that company I know you all enjoyed it.

You mention Milton having the stove fixed up wrong. Has he got all the eyes fixed yet. I don't remember you saying. Does mother use it much?

You mentioned playing ball with the different school, but didn't say who won but I can figure that out. Will be good double ugly.

Love, Bob

Hello Dad,

So mother and Betty Jean do you the same way Brock does me. They write and leave me nothing but glad to hear from you even though it is kinda late.

Looks like you bragged on the car too soon, said you got 70 and believed it would make 80 and then everything had to go wrong with it, but mother says it is about ready to go again. I hope so anyway, next time you get her in it, show her first how fast it will go.

You said you all started cleaning the swamp. It is hard to believe but after all that snow I don't imagine you got much done. It sounds like you all are planning on a big crop this year. I want you to see that something is made on it this year.

Too bad about you being sick. Hope you are up again.

Well looks like I have stalled. I can't think of another thing to write so will close.

Be good and we love you lots

Your sons



Bob told [unreadable] while I was playing basketball. I want to say the same I want to say the same news. No need to rewrite it. Just read his over.

We are still having fun. We got 16 letters this week. Today is only Thursday, we may get more. Grace is real nice about writing. I got 3 letters from her. No News so will close.

Love

Brock

May 15, 1940  
Whitely Field  
18th Air Base  
Honolulu T.H.

Dear Mother: + Aunt Family

We got your letter the first of week.  
It sure did save life you are informing  
your net, and on + proud that's just  
what you need. How did you feel getting  
up at nine o'clock and drinking coffee  
in bed + pray for you feel much better  
by your letter.

I suppose you all are about up with  
your sewing by now. you mention  
making us some pajamas and bath  
robes, it was nice of you to think of  
that, but I don't care for any, I  
might want some.

To bad about Casson's chicks being sick  
hope this is better by now. Roy got  
a letter from home today and said  
millie was sick again and had  
been in the hospital.

you keep mentioning writing all  
and I have had not even got this address  
and we didn't get a letter from them



either. send us their address, I wrote  
Maud last week last week.

will have to get about two  
more weeks to go to school. I think  
we get out about the third of June.  
I will be glad when it's over.

I am going to try to get a physical  
exam. for Randolph. Sat. or Mon. I have  
been going to wait to pass the money.  
and it is going to take a lot of work  
too.

will have in her and B. & coming  
I bet they are having a time. I can't  
wait to get some more pictures of her.  
I know she is a cut-throat.

Turns that I am stuck so will have  
for this time  
Love to all  
Bob.

May 15, 1940  
Wheeler Field  
18<sup>th</sup> Air Base Sqdn  
Honolulu, T.H.

Dear Mother and Ava and Family,

We got your letter the first of week. It sure did sound like you are enjoying your rest and am I proud, that's just what you need. How did you feel getting up at nine o'clock and drinking coffee in bed. I know you feel much better by your letters.

I suppose you all are about up with your sewing by now. You mentioned making us some pajamas and bath robes. It was nice of you to think about it, but I don't care for any. Brock might want some.

To bad about cousin Ricky being sick. Hope she is better by now. Ray got a letter from home today and said Willie Mae was sick again and had been in the hospital.

You keep mentioning writing Alle and Jep. We hadn't even got their address and didn't get a letter from them either. Send us their address. I wrote Maude & Webb last week.

Well I haven't got but about two more weeks to go to school. I think we got out about the third of June. I will be glad when it's over. I am going to try to get a physical exam for Randolph Sat and if I pass I am going to work to pass the mental and it is going to take a lot of work too.

Well how is Sue and B.J. coming. I bet they are having a time. I can't wait to get some more pictures of her. I know she is a cutie.

Seems that I am stuck so will close for this time.

Love to all,

Bob



May 16, 1940

Dear mother:

Well I just got your letter, one from  
Anna and B. and you, and they were very interesting.  
I was glad to know you had got my letter.  
I hope I had written them.

So they have some army planes in  
one comb. unit. I wonder you heard a  
little of what we heard a lot of. There  
is only 20 planes there and about 100  
here. you talk like you expected some  
large planes, but I suppose you were  
disappointed when you saw them. I  
suppose there were all pursuit planes  
or fighters. They have some bombers over  
there. The Bombers are pretty good  
size, but there is no room for many  
passengers, they are made for carrying  
bombs, any way you saw the planes  
we have. We have been having ~~many~~  
maneuvers over here too, air raids  
all during the day and night, about  
calls all during the night, we will

have a black out about the 26th I think.

How do you think I would look as a pilot. I am determined to be as well as nothing in the army.

Looks like you can't get your mind off of letting the car go back, but you just as well to. we are expecting a raise about the 15th of next month and I enjoy sending the money to you, we have plenty anyway. I know you all will need the car and in a month or two we will hardly miss the money so just take it easy here. you said you liked to maintain it an account of everything you write seems to be unpleasant, but still I like to hear it all, I hope some day all the news will be good, and if I make that pilot I think we will be here. I almost know Beach will make it.

So daddy is trying to be good and get you back out on the old hill ha well



just forget it all for I wouldn't have  
you go back for anything. I am sure  
every thing will work out fine but  
of course it will take a little time.

You said you were going out and  
see him about giving you claim on  
the Crawford rent check, I hope he agree  
and thing go on as smooth as possible  
and the negro make a good crack. I wish  
you had moved your furniture by rail, I  
love you.

I hate to hear about Uncle Robson  
and the bank, but the way he has it fixed  
he won't loose much. I hope he comes  
out all right.

I think Awa and Major has been  
mighty, mighty good about everything,  
and I know Awa in fact it all, I only wish  
it was something I could do, but don't  
you worry about your independence  
for after all we owe it all to you, I  
just hope some day I can just pay

a little about what I am you back in  
 some, for I know what you have been  
 through to get me this far, after all  
 make you happy make me happy, so  
 don't get the meningidia, for we all  
 will run upon you.

Paul & C. got disappointed the other  
 day when he got his rating, he was  
 expecting a 1st or 5th which pays about  
 \$40 but he only got 6th class private  
 which pays \$3. more, and that is kind of  
 rating, are hard to get rid of too, but they  
 push something like that at me  
 soon going to tell them to push it  
 but I think we will get a pretty good one  
 we got our last week's order this  
 morning and I had an order of 80.

Did you all hear the President speak  
 this morning. It was quite interesting  
 don't you think I think the air caps  
 will get about \$19,000,000 of the money



He ask for and will buy more planes  
and equipment. I also noticed in the  
paper to day where there were 200 pilots  
that had been out of service ~~and~~  
on account of physical disability. For the  
Army pilot are being put in active service  
to train new pilots and I hope I am  
one of them.

I am glad Uncle will be paid.  
I don't see how I could pay him now.

Alle seems to be happy don't  
she, well I hope she will always  
be and they will have the best of  
luck. I wonder if she will get married  
now.

Broch wrote me a note & I have  
been trying to get him to come up  
to see the place but he won't. I suppose  
I will go down soon some time.

Remember I love  
You dearly  
Bab.

Dear Liz,

I sure was glad to get that letter from you. And like those nice things you said about us. You had about your tea but I hope you didn't break it, but I still can't see where that would have any effect on your writing. It was thanks and I know you can beat that.

It was nice of you to take mother to the show. I know she enjoyed it.

I suppose you are all dressed up by now and started to Sunday school. I want you to take mother along to, I know she wants to go though.

Well it is not long until your birth day is it, and you will be 12 years old, will soon be a young lady.

Well I am going to be looking for a rather better and don't wait so long to write.

Love  
Bob



Dear Ava:

well Ava we sure do appreciate you  
writing when mother forgets to write it.  
She sure is proud of you and what you are  
doing for her. I know she is much better  
satisfied by the way she writes. How  
is my old major to help the way he is.  
I hope you all can get them some  
clothes to wear and the expense won't  
be so much then.

I hope B. & S. will soon get settled  
and not have any more. I am  
glad for her, for I know she will do  
placid if she has a chance. Like her  
big sis.

I am sure you all got my letter  
for you had said I could meet when  
I had mother better and said yourself  
had got them.

Ava that baby oh your mother  
the songs from all I can hear. Don't  
forget to send us some of her pictures

has I want to put up with her as  
much as possible.

Hope better in all her comings  
to me class.

Love

Bob



May 16, 1940

Dear Mother,

Well I first got your letter, one from Ava and B.J. and you, and they sure were interesting. I was glad to know you had got my letters for I knew I had written them.

So they have some army planes in McComb now. I imagine you hear a little of what we hear a lot of. There is only 28 planes there and about 100 here. You talk like you expected some large planes but I suppose you were disappointed when you saw them. I suppose they were all pursuit planes or did they have some bombers over there. The bombers are pretty good size, but there is no room for many passengers, they are made for carrying bombs. Any way, you saw the planes we have. We have been having maneuvers over there too. Air raids all during the day and night, alert calls all during the night, we will blackout about the 26<sup>th</sup> I think.

How do you think I would look as a pilot. I am determined to be one or nothing in the Army.

Looks like you can't get your mind off of letting the car go back, but you just as well too. We are expecting a raise about the 15<sup>th</sup> of next month and I enjoy sending the money to you. We have plenty anyway. I know you all will need the car and in a month or two we will hardly miss the money, so just take it easy here. You said you hated to mention it on account of everything you write seems to be unpleasant, but still I like to hear it all. I hope someday all the news will be good, and if I make that pilot I think we will be fixed. I almost know Brock will make it.

So Daddy is trying to be good, and get you back out on the Old Hill-Ha. Just forget it all for I wouldn't have you go back for anything. I am sure everything will work out fine but of course it will take a little time.

You said you were going out and see him about giving you claim on the crop and rent check. I hope he agrees and things go on as smooth as possible and the negroes make a good crop. I suppose you have moved your furniture by now or have you.

I hated to hear about uncle Hobson and he bank, but the way he has it fixed he won't lose much. I hope he comes out all right.

I think Ava and Major has been mighty, mighty good about everything and I know Ava enjoys it all. I only wish it was something I could do, but don't you worry about your independence for after all we owe it all to you. I just hope someday I can just pay a little of what I owe you back in some, for I know what you have been through to get me this for after all make you happy makes me happy, so don't let the wrong idea, for we all will never repay you.

Poor J.C. got disappointed the other day when he got his rating, he was expecting a 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> which pays about \$40, but he only got 6<sup>th</sup> class private which pays \$3. more, and those kind of rating are hard to get rid of too. If they push something like that at me

I am going to tell them to keep it but I think we will get a pretty good one. We got our last weeks grades this morning and I had an average of 80.

Did you all hear the President's speak this morning. It was quite interesting don't you think. I think the air corps will get about \$590090000 of the money he asked for and will buy more planes and equipment. I also noticed in the paper today where there were 200 pilots that had been out of service on account of physical disabilities for the army pilots one being put in active service to train new pilots and I hope I am one of them.

I am glad uncle Will is paid for I don't see how I could pay him now.

Alle seems to be happy don't she, well I hope she will always be and they will have the best of luck. I wonder if Jep will get married now.

Brock wrote me a note. I have been trying to get him to come up to see the place, but he won't. Therefore I will go down Sat. sometime.

Remember I love you dearly

Bob

Dear Ava,

Well Ava we sure do appreciate you writing when mother doesn't feel like it. She sure is proud of you and what you are doing for her. I know she is much better satisfied by the way she writes. I sure is nice of Major to help the way he is

I hope you all can get them some clothes to wear and the expense won't be so much then.

I hope B.J. will soon get settled and meet some play mates. I sure am glad for her, for I know she will go places if she has a chance, like her big sis.

I am sure glad you all got my letters for you had [unreadable] mother letters and said you all had got them.

Ava, that baby of yours must be the doings from all I can hear, Don't forget to send us some of her pictures for I want to keep up with her as much as possible.

Looks like this is all for tonight so will close.

Love

Bob



Dear Sis,

I sure was glad o get that letter from you and liked the nice things you said about us. Too bad about your toy but I hope you didn't break it, but I still can't see where that would have any effect on your writing it was trouble and I know you can beat that.

It was nice of you to take mother to the show. I know she enjoyed it.

I suppose you are all dressed up by now and started to Sunday School. I want you to take mother along to, I know she wants to go though.

Well it is not long until your birthday is it, and you will be 12 years old, will soon be a young lady. Well I am going to be looking for another letter and don't wait so long to write.

Love

Bob

17th Air Base  
Hickam Field  
Honolulu, T. H.  
May 22, 1940

Dear Ava,

Your letter came first so you will be the first to hear from me. The mail box really looked good this morning. Two letters from Grace, one from you and one from mother and the two notes from Betty Jean. I will write the three of you right now.

Was glad to hear of mother's improvement. I know that you would get her on her feet again. I bet she is a flapper now. I hope you manage to keep her feeling fine. Don't let her worry about her sons for we are in fine condition. I believe we are safe from the war the U.S. may enter. Don't let the war upset you though. We may not even declare war.

So bad about the boy getting lost when he jumped from plane. Our paper stated that he has been found. The picture mother sent was in the paper here last week. I suppose the maneuvers are over by now. They will be over here on Saturday 24. We have really carried out the act. All the calls were given out hours not expected. I have enjoyed them very much. I think we are going to have another one at 11th night to night. No one really knows when next one will be. Any time suits me.



Yes, it will be much nicer for mother to get her wood  
and bed. I bet she would like to have that you'd be too. I never  
crossed the place though. But all you can without crossing  
the house.

Your brother is acting sergeant but he doesn't draw the pay. I  
am going to put in for mechanic school next week. He big  
sargent told us to put in for what we want and he will  
see that we get it. The Over Seas is running out. It  
will be discontinued within a few weeks. I will go  
to some school that Charles is in, only I will only go  
three months and he will go nine.

Glad you ~~to~~ heard from Doolie. I hope she continues  
to be happy with Joe.

Send a picture of family along with the ones  
from Coral. I bet all of you are cute. I would like  
to slip in on you when I wasn't expected.

Just what is the trouble with cars? Can't it be fixed.  
You want to turn it in now but you can't  
without it. Buy and fix it. We are going to have  
it for I know you need it bad. I don't like the idea  
of humming rides. Do you?

Thanks for seeing Williams about my paper. Maybe  
I will get it soon.

Will write ather now. They may let you  
read this.

lots of love  
always  
Shook.



Betty Jean is the next if to lat. Now is right, you must be dumb. Your address is wrong and your writing is backward. Should I send you a fountain pen. See if you can't borrow mother's. I don't like to get letters written with pencil. That is backward, say and catch up her. Use a pen at all time. Never use a pencil to write letters.

I bet you have added a few names to your list by now. Do your best to meet all the nice boys and girls. They will mean a lot to you. I am glad that you go to recreation center to play. You should meet lots of friends there.

Now is Sunday School and Church time. I hope you enjoy them as I do. You must feel dressed up in that pretty dress and new shoes.

I was proud of my red flower on Mother's day too. There wasn't been worn but I wore mine. There is only one day out of 365 set aside for Mother, I think there should be more. Let's make every day Mother's day. Why can't it be her day as good as it can be yours or mine. Tell if you can make such be true. I know you can if you want it that way.

I will see that mother will be able to get you a Bible for your birthday. You need one bad. Use a Capital B when used in Bible always. Always think of that when you write the word. Capitalize pronouns that are used



instead of Bible. You are right just about 30 days from  
now and you will be twelve years old.

Did you enjoy your visits at the Papes. I know  
you had lots of fun.

You have been very good about writing. Don't  
feel bad because I correct you. I am only trying  
to help you. I had to be told once ago or a time. I look  
for mistakes in letters. It does me a lot of good  
to discover mistakes that you and others make  
in letters. If you don't believe it ask Grace the next  
time you see her. As I was saying I like your letters.  
You could make the appearance better though.

Keep up the good work and try to do better  
each day. You may find it hard in places but you  
can prepare yourself for those occasions. Don't let  
anything stop you. Stick with the best only. Nothing  
but the best is good enough for you.

I will close now but you will hear from  
me again soon. Take care of the family and don't  
let them get spoiled.

Until a later date I must say Good  
bye dear  
Yours of love  
Always  
Brook.

P.S. Has Grace got a sister name Majorie?

The thing to do is 'my dear Mother. Shall you  
and three times. That's the way I take them. The ball  
game will soon be over. It looks like its going to be  
a tie. That's it. I got as much out of writing a letter  
as the receiver. I enjoy writing letters to those that  
I know enjoy getting them.

Your sons are feeling fine. I am still Acting  
Sergeant and Bob is still a student at Wheeler.  
We were down Saturday. We went to Earl Barker to  
see Ray Wilson. He wasn't at home though. We had the  
something in mind. He was here when we returned.  
We enjoyed looking at the ships in the Harbor though.  
Bob has an average of 80 in his course. He will be  
back here with me in two weeks.

I think its a good time to have Bettye Jeans  
tonails removed myself. Let her read for a big  
year next school year. Bob's doesn't bother him. I  
think he can wait until he gets back home.  
I am glad that mine are out.

Grace told me of the Cardinale sent you. I  
thought it was mighty nice of her. We didn't send a card  
but I know you got what you needed. She said that  
she waved at you one afternoon but didn't think  
you recognized her. Have you heard the good news. ~~She~~  
She is elected at Ford, Amite County. She will  
teach the 3rd and 4th grades. Don't you know



We think of to best is my dear mother. She's off  
and I'll leave. I'll be the way I take them. The fall  
years will soon be over. It looks like its going to be  
a tie. That's it, I get to work out of writing a letter  
to the receiver. I enjoy writing letters to them that  
I know enjoy getting them.

Your sons are feeling fine. I am still Acting  
Sergeant and Bob is still a student at Wakelee.  
He was down Saturday. We went to Grand Harbor to  
see Ray Withums. He wasn't at home though. He had the  
something in mind. We were here when we returned.  
We enjoyed looking at the ships in the Harbor though.  
Bob has an average of 80 in his course. He will be  
back here with me in two weeks.

I think its a good time to have Bettye Jean  
travel around myself. Let her lead for a big  
year out school year. Bob's doesn't bother him. I  
think he can wait until he gets back home.  
I am glad that mine are out.

Grace told me of the Cardlake and you. I  
thought it was mighty nice of her. We didn't send a card  
but I know you got what you needed. She said that  
she would sit you one afternoon but didn't think  
you recognized her. Have you heard the good news. ~~She~~  
She is elected at Ford, Amite County. She will  
teach the 3rd and 4th grades. Don't you have

that she is tickle over the fact. She doesn't want to tell  
her he would not require her to attend school this  
summer. She must have made a baby hit. I know  
she can handle the partition though.

I love through the mail. Trying to be nice for  
a change. Don't let things of that sort fall you out  
of the happy days that you are now living. We can't be  
troubled, you should know by now. You are where you  
belong and that's where you are going to stay.

Don't ~~suffer~~ suffer. What is going to become  
of that place. I guess you will have plenty say in a few  
weeks. That's alright, maybe the rest of the place  
will make up for it.

I can see Sae growing just like you say.  
She will be a grown girl when we return. That  
is in the near future in case you didn't know.

Continue to improve and be a nice sweet mother.  
We think of you often, wishing that we could  
take your worry off your shoulders, we will eventually  
do that very thing.

I will be seeing you soon. Until that  
time I will see you through letters. Sorry  
the boat failed you. Better luck next time.  
Lots of Love  
Always  
Brook.



17<sup>th</sup> Air Base  
Hickam Field  
Honolulu, T.H.  
May 22, 1940

Dear Ava,

Your letter came first so you will be the first to hear from me. The mail box really looked good this morning. 2<sup>nd</sup> letter from Grace, one from you and one from mother and the two notes from Bettye Jean. I will write the three of you right now.

Was glad to hear of mother's improvement. I knew that you would get her on her feet again. I bet she is a flapper now. I hope you manage to keep her feeling fine. Don't let her worry about her sons for we are in fine condition. I believe we are safe from the war the US may enter. Don't let the war upset you though. We may not even declare war.

Too bad about the boy getting lost when he jumped from plane. Our paper stated that he has been found. The picture mother sent was in the paper here last week. I suppose the maneuvers are over by now. They will be over here on Saturday 24. We have really carried out the act. Alert calls and fire calls were given out hours not expected. I have enjoyed them very much. I think we are going to have another one at midnight tonight. No one really knows when the next one will be. Anytime suits me.

Yes, it will be much nicer for mother to get her wardrobe and bed. I bet she would like to have that good old chest too. I wouldn't crowd the place though. Get all you can without crowding the house.

Your brother is acting Sargent but he doesn't draw the pay. I am going to put in for mechanic school next week. The big Sargent told us to put in for what we want and he will see that we get it. The Over Seers is running out. It will be discontinued within a few weeks. I will go to same school that Charles is in, only I will only go three months and he will go nine.

Glad you heard from Doalie. I hope she continues to be happy with Joe.

Send a picture of family along with the one of Sue Carol. I bet all of you are cute. I would like to slip in on you when I wasn't expected.

Just what is the trouble with car? Can't it be fixed. You wanting to turn it in now hear you are lost without it. Try and fix it. We are going to keep it for I know you need it bad. I don't like the idea of bumming rides. Do you?

Thanks for seeing Williams about my paper. Maybe I will get it soon.

Will write other's now. They may let you read them.

Lots of love always

Brock

Betty Jean is next up to bat. Ava is right, you must be drunk. Your address is wrong and your writing is awkward. Should I send you a fountain pen. See if you can't borrow mothers. I don't like to get letters written with a pencil. That is backward. Try and catch up dear. Use a pen at all time. Never use a pencil to write letters.

I bet you have added a few names to your list by now. Do your best to meet all the nice boys and girls. They will mean a lot to you. I am glad that you go to recreation center to play. You should meet lots of friends there.

How is Sunday school and church dear. I hope you enjoy them as I do. You must feel dressed up in that pretty dress and new shoes.

I was proud of my red flower on Mother's day too. There wasn't been worn but I wore mine. There is only one day out of 365 set aside for mother. I think there should be more. Lets make every day Mother's day. Why can't it be her day as good as it can be yours or mine. See if you can make such be true. I know you can if you want it that way.

I will see that mother will be able to get you a Bible for your birthday. You need one bad. Use a capital B when used in Bible always. Always think of that when you write the word. Capitalize pronouns that are used instead of Bible. You are right just about 30 days from now and you will be twelve year old.

Did you enjoy your visit at the Pope's. I know you had lots of fun.

You have been very good about writing. Don't feel bad because I correct you. I am only trying to help you. I had to be told once upon a time. I look for mistakes in letters. It does me a lot of good o discover mistakes that you and other makes in letter. If you don't believe it ask Grace the next time you see her. As I was saying I like your letters. You could make the appearance better though.

Keep up the good work and try to do better each day. You may find it hard in places but you can prepare yourself for those occasions. Don't let anything stop you. Stay with the best only. Nothing but the best is good enough for us.

I will close now but you will hear from me again soon. Take care of the family and don't let them get spoiled.

Until a later date I must say Good Bye dear.

Lots of Love

Always,

Brock

PS Has Grace got a sister named Majorie?



The third up to bat is my dear mother. Three up and three down. That's the way I take them. The ball game will soon be over. It looks like it's going to be a tie. That's it, I get as much out of writing a letter as the receiver. I enjoy writing letters to those that I know enjoy getting them.

Your sons are feeling fine. I am still acting Sargent and Bob is still a student at Wheeler. He was down Saturday. We went to Pearl Harbor to see Ray Hilburn. He wasn't at home though. He had the same thing in mind. He was here when we returned. We enjoyed looking at the ships in the harbor though. Bob has an average of 80 in his course. He will be back here with me in two weeks.

I think it is a good time to have Bettye Jean's tonsils removed myself. Set her read for a big year next school year. Bob's doesn't bother him. I think he can wait until he gets back home. I am glad that mine are out.

Grace told me of the card she sent you. I thought it was mighty nice of her. We didn't send a card but I know you got what you needed. She said that she waved at you one afternoon but didn't think you recognized her. Have you heard the good news. She is elected at Ford, Amite County. She will teach the third and fourth grades. Don't you know that she is tickle over the fact. The superintendent told her he would not require her to attend school this summer. She must have made a big hit. I know she can hold the position though.

Flowers through the mail. Trying to be nice for a change. Don't let things of that sort pull you out of the happy days that you are now living. He can't be trusted, you should know that by now. You are where you belong and that's where you are going to stay.

Poor Uyser-bottom. What is going to become of that place. I guess you will have plenty hay in a few weeks. That's alright, maybe the rest of the place will make up for it.

I can see Sue growing just like you say. She will be a grown girl when we return. That is in the near future in case you didn't know.

Continue to improve and be a nice sweet mother. We think of you often, wishing that we could take your worry off your shoulders, we will eventually do that very thing.

I will be seeing you soon. Until that time I will see you through letters. Sorry the boat failed you. Better luck next time.

Lots of Love

Always,

Brock











1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

There is a great deal of work to be done in the  
country, and it is necessary to have a large  
number of men to do it. The work is of great  
importance, and it is necessary to have a large  
number of men to do it.

### THE WORK TO BE DONE

The work to be done is of great importance, and it is  
necessary to have a large number of men to do it. The  
work is of great importance, and it is necessary to have  
a large number of men to do it.

The work to be done is of great importance, and it is  
necessary to have a large number of men to do it. The  
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necessary to have a large number of men to do it. The  
work is of great importance, and it is necessary to have  
a large number of men to do it.

THE  
END



Bob Thornhill  
14g S / 14g Sg 11th Yp.  
1 Kicham Field  
Kauai, T. H.

August 11, 1940

Dear Mother: Awa B. & family:

we got a nice long letter today, sure  
was glad to get it. Glad that you decided to  
add a note to B. & letter. Too bad about you  
being sick. Hope you are better by now. So  
that's why it takes so long to get our letter  
you forgot to mail them.

Summers like it is going to flood you all  
out. if it keeps raining, I bet John is  
mad an account of he can't get a turn out.  
He should be down here, he could really get  
one. I have given up all hopes of blisters so  
dam long and put off and blisters again.  
Did he get to go to Durin park to go swimming  
hope so.

So you had unexpected company I imagine  
it was a surprise. So he had a man waiting  
for him and it turned out to be Uncle Will.  
Summers like he can't tell the truth. He  
want ever be able to that I don't know.  
It was nice of him to give you all



that money. He is the same old thing and  
no hope for better, and B. J. and I got  
a present from him. Did he say anything  
about you going back out there and up you to  
go for staying with J mother or at the  
house?

So you have been seeing para lady. I don't  
remember you can make any money seeing  
at that rate so I would forget it, too much  
work for nothing.

So we haven't got a birth certificate I hope  
he got it fixed up in the near future, so we  
want him to wait till after Dec. He is a  
boy in the boat with me, and the 1st of Jan  
to go him to report to him. So he has a year  
and Holbrook College and R. O. T. C. and he is  
going to be a 1st Lt. He is a boy in Holbrook  
College. Tell uncle to wish them up "Please".

So you will say we are not satisfied  
with his mistakes. I don't know about J. C.  
he is saving his money, but not to buy  
out, I don't think he never says anything  
about it, and for Roy he hasn't saved a  
penny. I think he is mistaken, and for  
me I would go back now if they would



turn me alone. I failed for two years  
and I am going to try to make something  
if I can in these two years and I hope  
things look this is settled and the  
war to this end. If I make what I  
want I will retire. Otherwise I want  
I am doing every thing I can to make some  
thing worth while, but I don't see where  
you can make much, unless you can make  
an officer and if you do you have nothing  
to worry about. The most you can make is  
about \$5. and you can loan it in no time.  
It usually takes about six years to make  
stable and that is about all you can put  
on, that only pay \$12 and I care much  
for the army as an enlisted man. I hope  
I am lucky enough to get a good job when  
we get home.

You put worrying about Brack and if  
we are only 1 block apart just 1 block business  
word he is working in the same block  
with me. So don't worry. As long as you



on the same part we cant be bar apart  
I suppose John enjoyed that dinner  
you feed for him, I hope I would. How  
is he coming with his wife.

So we was trying to show her self and  
break her battle I hope she is a cat with  
you all to play and pick at her all the time  
I bet she is had to keep clean with her  
all over the floor in the dust, but she  
will live through it well. the dirt will  
do her good, you know her mother used to  
eat dirt remember?

The Hunter's fight carrier today with  
108 recruits. we had 12 planes to go out  
to meet it yesterday, it was about 250 miles  
out and I almost got to go with them, but  
didn't. I am going up to ~~morrow~~ night to  
the big show, don't know yet if I hope  
don't get sick.

I went to the ball game this evening  
and was good had to play 10 innings to play  
off the tie 3 to 3 and we won, we have only  
been best twice this year,



Dear Ma:

Your excuse is getting old better get  
a new one. So you told your pop. oh he wanted  
to go to school but I want to go to school. I thought  
he was making good money with all that  
work to do. He talks all the time about having  
so much to do.

Did he get out with the picture  
plane to can. I don't expect he did.

So you want to know who the boy is  
in the picture with his pants down, it's  
Roy. Brock. He's up on me. I can't wait  
for the picture of him. The rot. I don't  
sum him, he's 9 months old. He will  
be grown before long.

Boy did you read B. J. letter before the  
mail? it was about that, about the  
said he told you that you had promised  
him longer than he. I don't know much  
will have to write to him in a different  
way. Boy away daddy. Love about it.

Love  
+ 306

Betty Jean.

That was a nice letter you wrote  
I laugh until I hurt you not. why  
can't you do that more often. I really  
enjoy them. That was too bad about your  
money being lost. that pop sent you &  
I hope it was a nice roll.

Boy I wish I could hear you sing  
over the radio. my hear will sometimes  
be listened to ~~the radio~~ <sup>K. Raper</sup> this evening  
from 3:30 to 4:30 it was a good program.

you must be coming in B.Y.P.U.  
to take a part in play. well will have  
to close it with soon.

Love  
Baf



Bob Thornhill  
Hq. Sq. 11<sup>th</sup> gp  
Hickam Field  
Honolulu, T. H.  
August 21, 40

Dear Mother, Ava, B.J. and family,

We got a nice long letter today, sure was glad to get it. Glad that you decided to add a note to B.J. letter. Too bad about you being sick. Hope you are better by now. So that's why it takes so long to get Ava's letters. You forgot to mail them.

Seems like it is going to flood you all out if it keeps raining. I bet John is mad on account of he can't get a sun tan. He should be over here, he could really get one. I have given up all hope. I blister so damn easy and peel off and blister again. Did he get to go to Quinn Park to go swimming, hope so.

So you had unexpected company. I imagine it was a surprise. So he had a man waiting for him and it turned out to be Uncle Will. Seems like he can't tell the truth. He won't ever be able to do that I don't suppose. It sure was nice of him to give you all that money. He is the same old thing and no hope for better, and B.J. and I've got a present from him. Did he say anything about you going back out there or ask you to go. Is he staying with G mother or at the house?

So you have been sewing for a lady. I don't see where you can make any money sewing at that rate so I would forget it, too much work for nothing.

So we haven't got a birth certificate. I hope he gets it fixed in the near future so we won't have to wait till after Dec. A boy in the tent with me, and the Sq. commander told him to report to him so he has a year and a half of college and ROTC and he is going to be a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Reserve. Boy is he lucky. Tell Uncle Tal to rush them up [unreadable].

So Uncle Orvil says we are not satisfied, well he is mistaken. I don't know about J.C. he is saving his money, but not to buy out, I don't think he never says anything about it, and for Ray, he hasn't saved a penny. I think he is mistaken. And for me I would go back now if they would turn me alose. I joined for two years and I am going to try to make something if I can in those two years and I hope things back there is settled and the war talk is over. If I make what I want I will reenlist otherwise I won't. I am doing everything I can to make something worthwhile, but I don't see where you can make much unless you can make an officer and if you do you have nothing to worry about. The most you can make is about \$75 and you can lose it in no time. It usually takes about six years you make staff and that is about all you can depend on, that only pays \$72 and I care much for the army as an enlisted man. I hope I am lucky enough to get a good job when we get home.

You keep worrying about Brock and I. We are only on block apart. Just 1 block between us and he is moving in the same block with me. So don't worry. As long as we are on the same part we can't be far apart.

I suppose John enjoyed that dinner you fixed for him. I know I would. How is he coming with his work.

So Sue was trying to show herself and broke her booty. I bet she is a cutter with you all to play and pick at her all the time. I bet she is hard to keep clean with her all over the floor in the dust, but she will live through it we did. The dirt will do her good, you know her mother used to eat dirt, remember?

The Hunter Liggitt came in today with 108 recruits. We had 12 planes to go out to meet it yesterday, it was about 250 miles out and I almost got to go with them, but didn't. I am going up tomorrow. Might go to the big island, don't know yet. I hope I don't get very sick.

I went to the ball game this evening. Sure was good. Had to play 10 innings to play off. They tied 3 to 3 and we have only been beat twice this year.

Dear Ava,

Your excuse is getting old better get a new one ha! So you told your pop off or what. You should, but it won't do any good. I thought he was making good money with all that work to do.

Did he get out with the peas and pears to can. I don't expect he did.

So you want to know who the boy is in the picture with his pants down, it's Ray. Brock slipped up on us. I can't wait for the pictures of Sue, the rot. Don't seem like she is 9 months old. She will be grown before long.

Say did you read B.J.'s letter before she mailed it, what about that. About she said she told you that you had [unreadable] him longer than she. Did I laugh. Mother will have to refer to him in a different way [unreadable]daddy how about it.

Love, Bob

Betty Jean,

That sure was a nice letter you wrote. I laugh until I hurt you not. Why can't you do that more often. I really enjoyed them. That was too bad about your money being lost that pop sent you. I knew it was a nice roll.

Say, I wish I could hear you sing over the radio. We here W.W.L. sometimes. We listened to K Kauser this evening from 3:30 to 4:30. It was a good program.

You must be coming in B.Y.P.U. to rate a part in a play. Well will have to close so write soon.

Love, Bob



Everyone,

Something has got to be done to Bob. He grabs the letters and answers them before I have a chance to read them. I like the way he writes but I know you would like to hear from me for a change. I am going to answer the next one if I have to get off from work and sit at the mail box all day. He suggested you send the letters to him in his squadron. It's a good idea. There are not many in his squadron; mail is put out earlier there than it is in the 17th. I won't get mad because you address them to him. I know they are meant for both of us. So from now on you may send the letters to him to the address that he gave.

Bob was mistaken about his flight this morning. He didn't get to go today but I feel sure he will get there soon; I may get one before I go to Randolph. I am going to be a pilot but I haven't been in a plane yet. I wonder if I will like it way up yonder.

I got my pictures from Company today. I put most of them in album today. I will have to get more corners before I put the rest of them in. If the single pictures were not printed at Flying Film Co. send the negatives instead. I want all pictures to have the border. If they are not 6-20 would like to have to negatives also. ~~Send what~~



It is easy to blister over here. The sun blistered me before I knew she was in the sun. I am peeling off now. I went swimming yesterday. The water is nice but I don't like the salt.

I heard from Grace yesterday. She is anxious for school to open. She has her heart set to make this year a real success. Just as she says, "the outcome is this year counts a lot". I know she will succeed. A girl is straight forward, and clean and honest and with the principle and backbone that she has, will make her way and do any job that she undertakes. I know that she is qualified for the possession.

Don't let any body make you think that we are not satisfied. We can stay here two years without getting tired of the place. But, we will be ready to leave in '04.

Sorry that we got you used to money and let you get used to it. We will see what we can do about the matter. \$30 goes on the car this month. I hope to be able to get Betty's Jean's clothes next pay day (October). You will have to do the best until then. We got another letter from Co. today. I will answer his letter to night but not with money.

Be sweet and take care of your self. Will write later. Good bye & good luck. Love & kisses Brook



8-22-40

Everyone,

Something has got to be done to Bob. He grabs the letters and answers them before I have a chance to read them. I like the way he writes but I know you would like to hear from me for a change. I am going to answer the next one if I have to get off from work and sit at the mail box all day. He suggested that you send the letters to him in his squadron. It is a good idea. There are not many in his squadron; mail is put out earlier there than it is in the 17<sup>th</sup>. I won't get mad because you address them to him. I know they are meant for both of us. So from now on you may send the letters to him to the address that he gave.

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It's way easier to blister over here. The sun blistered me before I knew I was in the sun. I am peeling off now. I went swimming yesterday. The water is nice but I don't like the salt.

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Don't let anybody make you think that we are not satisfied. We can stay here two years without getting tired of the place. But we will be ready to leave in '42.

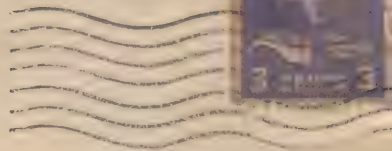
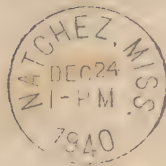
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Be sweet and take care of yourself. Will write later. Good bye and good luck.

Love and kisses

Brock

209 State St.  
Natchez, Miss



Mrs. Bessie B. Tharrell  
Magnolia, Miss.



Dearest Mother:

Well the dress + cake came last night. The dress is adorable and fits her perfectly. She looks like a doll in it + is she proud of it, you should see her strut in it. I tried it on her this morn. We didn't go to Sunday School. Major was sick last night and to-day need of medicine + too much pork sausage. He took his dosage of Cal Hyptica last night but was still under weather this morn so I called drugstore + had Paul send me something out. It did the trick and I think I want you to try it. It seems to be your dose. Major insist I send you this bottle (he disliked taste + did it keep him trotting Ha). I speak I might need it again huh? It is Fleet's phospho-soda. Let me know how you come out.

That cake hit the spot I was just trying to make up my mind to make a pie when it arrived. Major tried to make me wait till Xmas but I didn't. Neither did he. You should see Sue Cheering on it + reaching for more. I crumble mine up picking out fruit for her.

I hate for you + B. Jan not to get my package in time for Xmas but even if order should come to-morrow I couldn't get on to you. But I'll be there.

Write me about your Xmas tree. There was a card in it with So. Mrs Thornhill - G.R. on it. Made me wonder, (Ha) what is John's last name? What did you get?

Brock wrote Major a card congratulating him. Maybe I'll get letter in few days. Xmas so.

We have gotten lots of cards but not 1 from the family. Be sure to call for my mail in McComb we have several cards there.

I got letter from Nell said she had my patterns for me. I'm so glad. I sure hated to lose them. She didn't mention a pattern. wonder if its still



Vacant. I hope.

Major went to Company party & enjoyed it but I don't think quite like he would one in M.<sup>r</sup> Camb. I had kinda look forward to going to one there. They had it Friday Nite too.

I haven't heard from Edna since she was in bed. She owes me a letter. Guess I'll hear from her one day this week. Have you heard from B. Mother & Aunt Babs lately?

How did Mag & Jephthah come out. I know that's one game B. Jean wanted to play in & win. Luck to her if they haven't played, yet. Tell her I put the order in for her boots again. Told him size 7 for the seventh time I think. Maybe she'll get them by spring or has she already?

There is one thing I can't settle down to & like here & that's groceries. I sure wish for good ole piggy-biggly. It's just a matter of routine here - there I rather enjoyed it.

If the weather stays like this you can wear your linen instead of your knitted. How does it look? Good I'm sure.

Is Grace & Webb home yet? we got Card from them yesterday. Go see them when you go to - M.<sup>r</sup> Camb. - Tell her the little dress looks cute on Sue. I'll bring it when I come for her to see.

No news so will discontinue until after Xmas then will let you know just when to expect me. I'm hoping to catch a ride over if possible. I still want you to come over with Judge. I want those baking sheets, cake pan & bakers. Need them.

I love you  
Ava



Monday morn - Dam my luck. Well here is letter  
I recieved from Sears this morn. I called bank  
and they have check endorsed by Sears on  
Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> so I've written them another letter  
as my 4<sup>th</sup> attempt to get the order filled. I  
guess my sending check + your being there +  
me here has them all mixed up. I wrote them  
letter explaining but I knew how. Surely they'll  
sent it to me now. So you, B. Jean, Sue + Major  
will get your Xmas in January. I'm not gonna  
run up town + buy some little ol something for  
I don't have money + too its foolish. I'll just  
wait and bring the things when I come. I know  
this is silly but I've been trying since and to  
get them. Surely I'll have them by next year  
huh. Ha

Major brought home nice pork roast at noon so  
guess will have roast + dressing for dinner.  
Love  
Ava



Dec. 24, 1940

Dearest Mother,

Well the dress & cake came last night. The dress is adorable and fits her perfectly. She looks like a doll in it & is she proud of it, you should see her strut in it. I tried it on her this morn. We didn't go to Sunday School. Major was sick last night and today need of medicine & too much pork sausage. He took his dosage of Sal Hyatiea last night but was still under weather this morn so I called drugstore & had Paul send me something out. It did the trick and I think I want you to try it. It seems to be your dose. Major insist I send you this bottle (he disliked taste & did it keep him trotting Ha) I spect I might need it again huh? It is Fleets phosphor-soda. Let me know how you come out.

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I hate for you & B. Jean not to get my package in time for Xmas but even if order should come tomorrow I couldn't get on to you. But I'll be there.

Write me about your Xmas tree. There was a card in it with To. Mrs. Thornhill-J.R on it. Made me wonder. Ha! What is John's last name? What did you get?

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Major went to company party & enjoyed it but I don't think quite like he would in McComb. I had kinda look forward to going to one there. They had it Friday night too.

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No news so will discontinue until after Xmas then will let you know just when to expect me. I'm hoping to catch a ride over if possible. I still want you to come over with Judge. I want those baking sheets, cake pan, & boilers. Need them.

I love you, Ava

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Major brought home nice pork roast at noon so guess will have roast and dressing for dinner.

Love, Ava.